

BOOK REVIEWS

Kenneth A. Arndt, M.D.
Book Review Editor

Cosmetic Facial Surgery, First Edition, Thomas D. Rees, M.D., F.A.C.S., and Donald Wood-Smith, M.D., F.R.C.S.E. W.B. Saunders Company, Philadelphia, 1973. (609 pp, \$55.00)

Dr. Thomas D. Rees and Dr. Donald Wood-Smith have described with words, photographs, and illustrations the art of cosmetic facial surgery. The most striking feature of this definitive volume is the photographic and illustrative art work. The authors make excellent use of pre- and post-operative photographs to demonstrate what can and cannot be accomplished to demonstrate different techniques. The excellent medical illustrations enhance descriptive texts and clarify in-depth studies of operative procedures. The authors acknowledge credit due their photographer and medical illustrator.

Written descriptions of the authors' experiences are excellent. I believe the book will be of value to the inexperienced surgeon. The chapters on selection of patients and on social and psychological considerations should be read carefully. Senior surgeons can add to their clinical experiences by reading the authors' evaluations of different clinical problems in which they point out situations in which they would be more or less conservative and in which they might expect better or limited results.

In addition to discussion of surgical techniques of blepharoplasty, face lift, rhinoplasty, mentoplasty, and otoplasty, chapters are presented on chemabrasion, dermabrasion, silicone injection therapy, and hair transplantation.

The subject matter is presented with clarity and I recommend this volume to clinicians interested in aesthetic surgery of the face.

William E. Schatten, M.D.
Atlanta, Georgia

Microbiology of Human Skin, W. C. Noble, Ph.D., and Dorothy A. Somerville, Ph.D. W. B. Saunders Co., Philadelphia, 1974. (341 pp, \$22.50)

In the Foreword to *Microbiology of Human Skin*, Dr. Arthur Rook describes the experience of Drs. Noble and Somerville as unrivaled in Britain. Those who spend even 15 minutes with this book will recognize this comment as a typical example of British understatement, since these authors

have long since established themselves among the leaders in the field on a worldwide basis.

In 334 pages of text, they have managed to present virtually all of the work published in the last 15 years. Each of 18 chapters is followed by up to 100 references, each with a few words of comment on the text. This approach has left little room for analysis or in-depth evaluation, but in spite of this, the style of writing is flowing and pleasurable to read.

Section I describes the skin as a habitat, with chapters on physical features, nutrient factors, and cutaneous populations. Section II is concerned with the microbial inhabitants of the skin, in which 10 chapters deal with the *Corynebacteria*, *Micrococccaceae*, *Streptococci*, gram-negative bacilli, fungal flora, virus and mycoplasma, and the skin fauna, with one chapter devoted to miscellaneous bacteria.

Section III covers the ecology of the skin, including microbiology of various infective conditions such as psoriasis, host factors, effects of external agents, microbiology of specialized sites, and, last, a useful chapter on methodology.

Those active in the field of cutaneous microbiology will find this scholarly work an invaluable reference source, but clinical dermatologists will also find a wealth of interesting and up-to-date information pertinent to their practice. This book serves as a comprehensive yet concise statement of current knowledge in this field. Both sides of controversial questions are presented with little attempt to resolve them. Thus, those looking for research projects in cutaneous microbiology will find within this book many inviting challenges.

David Taplin
Miami, Florida

Books Received

The following books have been received and will be reviewed in a subsequent issue:

The Yearbook of Dermatology 1974, Frederick D. Malkinson, M.D., and Roger W. Pearson, M.D. Year Book Medical Publishers, Chicago, 1974.

Sunlight and Man: Normal and Abnormal Photobiologic Response, Madukar A. Pathak, Leonard C. Harber, Makoto Seiji, and Atsushi Kukita (eds.); Thomas B. Fitzpatrick, consulting editor. University of Tokyo Press, Tokyo, 1974.